

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed January 18, 2005, claims 1-3, and 5-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and claims 4, 8-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Claims 7, 15, 16 and 19-21 were objected as to as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but would otherwise be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of their base claims. Lastly, claim 14 was objected to for containing informalities.

In response, claims 1-6, 8-14, 17 and 18 have been canceled and claims 7, 15 and 19 have been amended. In particular, the objected to claims 7, 15 and 19 have been amended to incorporate the limitations of the respective claims to which they depend. No new matter has been introduced or added. Claims 7, 15, 16 and 19-21 remain pending in this application. Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Examiner's Objections to Claims 7, 15, 16, 19-21

Claims 7, 15, 16 and 19-21 were objected as to as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but would otherwise be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of their base claims. Claims 7, 15, and 19 have been amended to incorporate the limitations of their base claims, i.e., independent claims 1, 12 and 12, respectively. Accordingly, because these claims have been amended to incorporate acknowledged patentable subject matter, the corresponding Examiner's objection should be withdrawn. Claims 16 and 20, and 21 are dependent upon amended claims 15 and 19 and also contain acknowledged patentable subject matter. Accordingly, the Examiner's objection to these claims should likewise be withdrawn.

III. Correspondence and Fees

Please address all future correspondence to Intellectual Property Docket Administrator, Gibbons, Del Deo, Dolan, Griffinger & Vecchione, One Riverfront Plaza, Newark, NJ 07102-5496.

Telephone calls should be made to Robert E. Rudnick at (973) 596-4727 or (973) 596-4500.

If any additional fees are due in respect to this amendment, please also charge them to Deposit Account No. 03-3839.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. E. Rudnick', is written over a horizontal line.

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